

~~SECRET~~

IDEA-0208
Copy 2 of 12
6 March 1961

25X1A2d2

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : TACKLE [REDACTED] Briefing for State Department Officials, 3 March 1961

25X1A2d2

25X1A9a

1. [REDACTED] and the undersigned, representing DPD, participated on 3 March in the briefing of Secretary of State Rusk, Under Secretary of State Bowles, Assistant Secretary of State Parsons, and the new Director of Intelligence and Research, Mr. Hillman, on TACKLE and [REDACTED]. The briefing was held in the Secretary's conference room. In addition to the DPD group, General Cabell was present for the Agency.

25X1X7

Continued

3. Both [REDACTED] then jointly presented the facts about [REDACTED] once again emphasizing United States control and [REDACTED] sponsorship. General Cabell, as well as [REDACTED] stressed the value of the low level [REDACTED] mission profile as it relates to current SAC studies for EMP purposes where SAC doctrine appears to be moving toward a low altitude penetration system since the introduction of the SAM sites in Russia. The consolidation mission return for [REDACTED] over the past years was discussed, and General Cabell indicated that if approval to resume were received, a good planning figure would be on the order of two missions per month.

25X1A9a

4. At this point Secretary Rusk was obliged to leave to meet a visitor, and as he departed, he asked Under Secretary Bowles to relate to him the answer to the general question of how urgent it was that these programs be

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

IDEA-0208
Page 2

25X1A2d2 activated, and what order of delays would be accepted prior to a decision. Secretary Bowles then asked if we felt that a six months' delay in either or both missions was acceptable. He related this question to the fact that the President was feeling his way on the international scene, and time was needed to evaluate the new Sino-Soviet posture with relation to the United States. General Cabell spoke to this question, as he put it, "as an intelligence officer", further stating that any delay in obtaining hard intelligence of the nature which could be derived from these programs was undesirable, but that he felt resumption of the [REDACTED] Program was a move to be recommended as soon as possible, recognizing its lower political sensitivity than the TACKLE effort.

25X1X7

25X1A2d2
25X1A9a 6. Secretary Bowles then inquired if in our opinion a delay of three to four months would be tolerable for either program. General Cabell avoided answering this question directly, though he did indicate that there was not in his opinion the urgency connected with TACKLE that he felt to [REDACTED] Mr. Hilsman then inquired if the TACKLE briefing had been given to McGeorge Bundy in the White House. There seemed to be no definitive answer on this, although [REDACTED] suggested that Mr. Bissell himself may have given Mr. Bundy an oral outline. The sense of the meeting seemed to be that at some point it would be useful for Bundy to have such a briefing. In conclusion, General Cabell indicated that he would like to proceed with bringing [REDACTED] to Mr. Bundy's attention, but that he would not do so until there had been an indication from the Secretary of State regarding his willingness to sponsor such a move. No firm recommendation of this nature was made for the TACKLE Project by General Cabell at this meeting, the feeling apparently being that of the two [REDACTED] stood a better chance of approval at this time due to its lesser political sensitivity. It should be noted that at several points in the meeting, the question of [REDACTED]

25X1A2d2

25X1A2d2

25X1A2d2

25X1D0a

25X1A2d2

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

25X1D0a

IDEA-0208


Page 3

25X1D0a

Air Force, or IDEALIST overflights was brought up by Mr. Bowles.



25X1A9a



DDP-DD/P

Distribution:

- 1 - ASST CH/DDP
- 2 - Asst. to DCI
- 3 - DDP/EBM
- 4 - C/FE
- 5 - Asst. to DD/P

~~SECRET~~